

28 May 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Administration)  
THROUGH: Personnel Director  
Director of Security  
SUBJECT: McCarran Riders to Permit Discretionary Firings.

1. Attached hereto is an interesting and well presented article by Jack Steele published in the "New York Herald Tribune" of 10 May 1953.

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2. The so-called McCarran Riders referred to contain language which is almost identical to the language of Public Law 733 which is the law upon which Executive Order 10450 is based. As you are aware, that Executive Order is the one upon which our proposed regulations, in turn, are based. In each case the statute in a technical sense could be interpreted to give discretionary authority to terminate for reasons other than security. Mr. Steele points out that it is clear that Congress intended the riders to be used only against employees suspected of being disloyal or poor security risks. His point also is well taken that a termination under the authority of such a statute carries a clear security onus.

STATINTL

Attachment

[redacted]  
Acting General Counsel

OGC/JSW:kr:imm

Distribution -

Orig & 1 - Addressee  
1 - Personnel Director ✓  
1 - Director of Security  
2 - OGC